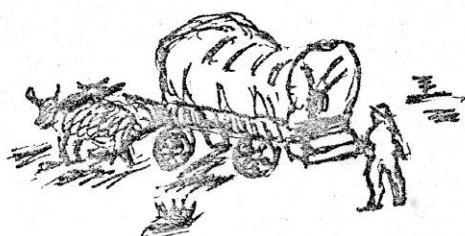


By
William T. HARPER

AIDED BY
DOROTHY AND GENEVIEVE IRWIN
AND
MARY ALICE STEVENSON



PREFACE

As the years pass we have a yearning to know more about our pioneering ancestors. We want to know where they came from and what they found in this country when they came here. We know that they had candles, spinning wheels, home soap making, butter churns, wood to burn and mostly horses for travel and above all else they had an intense desire to make a new home in this their chosen land. And they wanted a place where they could participate in the government, as well as be governed.

The information we have gathered comes from widely scattered sources: Family Bibles, Mt. Hope Cemetery at Harper and Miles Roads, and especially from our relatives who were kind and willing to write notes telling us of dates of birth and death of their kin that we needed to make this complete. We are sorry we cannot supply all the dates we would have liked and other additional information. However if we re-do this part, perhaps more data will surface for us to use.

Due to not having several items, we could not get information from Government sources. The Government demanded too many facts that we could not give them, such as the name of the boat they sailed on and the place the boat left to set sail.

We hope that this reading is as gratifying to you as it was to us to assemble.

THE UNITED STATES IN THE 1830's and 40's.

When the Harpers came to the United States in 1837, it was a poor year. Ohio had been admitted to the Union in 1803. In 1837 there were only 26 states and Michigan had been the last state to enter, having been made a state that January. What caused the "Panic of 1837" we cannot say. Some think the country had grown too fast and needed a brief slowing down to let things catch up. However our ancestors of 1837 and 1843 had sufficient means to become established.

It might be well to mention here that the first Cleveland Directory was published in 1837. Cleveland had a population of 9000 at that time. Other towns in Ohio had surpassed it in growth, and it was not until the next decades that it began to come ahead.

As a result of this financial slowdown the vast amounts of money (by early standards) that was being spent on transportation stopped and all new transportation construction halted. However there were canals, a few railroads in the east, and a National Pike. The National Pike we now refer to as Route 40. It had at first been called the Cumberland Road. The Ohio Canal running the length of Ohio had been completed. Also the Erie Canal in New York.

Now after landing in probably New York or Baltimore, the first Harpers coming here had to cross many miles by slow tedious travel to reach Ohio. Just how they arrived we do not know, we have not read any records that tell us. They could have come by Conestoga Wagon (covered wagon), by water part or all the way, some distance by rail, and also part by stage coach. One way it could have been done: A short rail trip; then the Erie Canal; and finally stage coach into Ohio. Or another path: They could have traveled by rail a short distance, then to the National Pike, coming into Ohio by going through Wheeling to Chio, getting off the Pike at a convenient place in Southern Ohio, perhaps Zanesville, and then on to Cuyahoga County.

From the book "Romance of American Transportation" the following is interesting:

"In the 1840's you could, if you wished, go from New York to Cincinnati, a distance of 1,100 miles almost entirely by water. You took a steamboat to Albany, a stage to Schenectady, canal to Buffalo, steamboat to Cleveland, canal to Portsmouth on the Ohio River and steamboat to Cincinnati.
Total Fare \$14.75. Total time one month."

This seems amusing to us, but then it was very much for real.

Important Items in the
Harper Genealogy

James Harper came from England to Ireland after the rebellion of the Irish. This must have been the last part of the seventeenth century. Irish history notes the "Uprising of 1798", and this is what we think was meant by "The Rebellion of the Irish." However, James was a stone mason. He helped build a church in Hillsborough (Hillsboro), County Down. This was an Episcopal Church and would place his migration to Ireland about 20 to 25 years earlier.

James had three sons: Hector, James and Samuel. James never married. He lived with Hector. Samuel married, but had no children. Hector married Betty Gibson, and it is the descendants of Hector that came to this country.

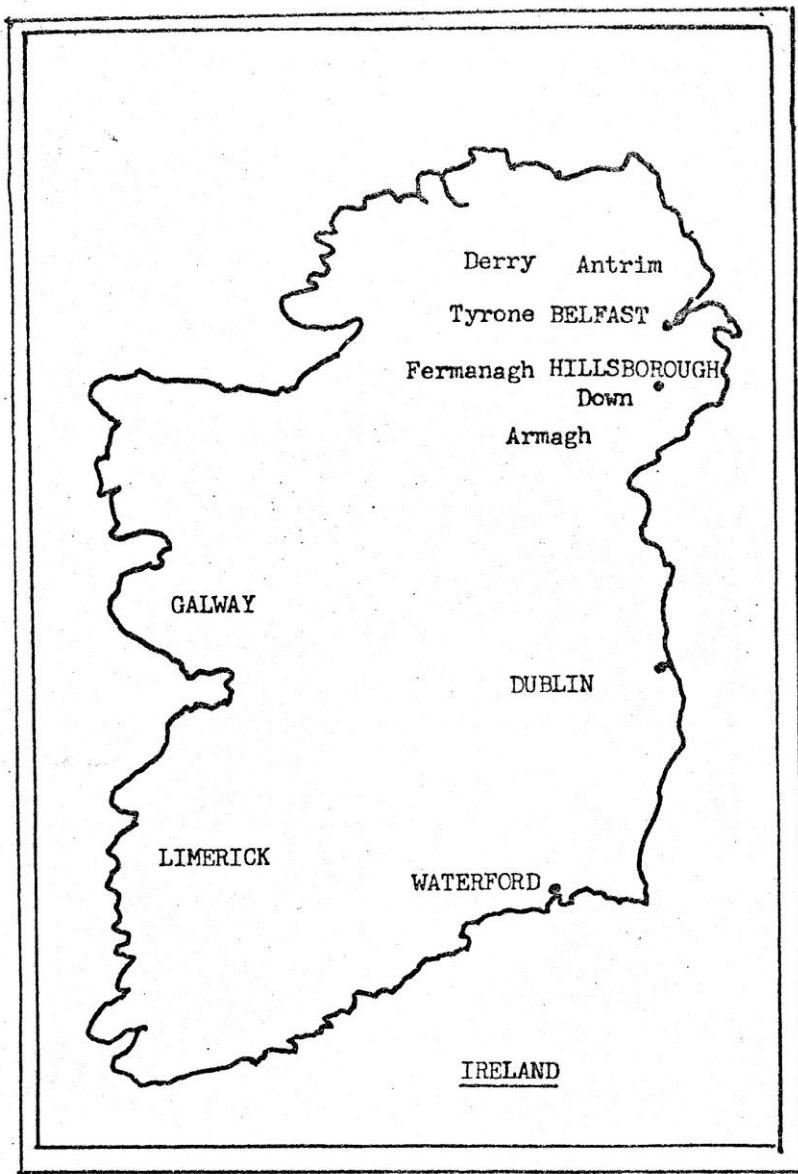
The first four of Hector's children to come here were:

1837 William, Robert, Hector and Nancy came in 1837. William, who was married and had three children when he came to this country, bought a farm on what is now St. Clair. It is thought that it was from what is now 22nd to 30th streets. It might have extended to what is now Euclid Avenue. At the time of their arrival Van Buren was President of the United States. The country was in a depression. This depression was called the "Panic of 1837." Even though this was true here, things were not good in Ireland. In Ireland the "Thirties" was a period of constant bickering between England and the Home Country. Things there were very unsettled. Because of poor farming conditions at the place of first purchase, William sold and bought a farm on what is now Harper Road.

1843 Hector's son James came to this country in 1843. James was married to Sally Lee and had three children prior to coming to the States. James Tyler was President. Wm. Henry Harrison had been elected in 1840; but after a month in office died. Tyler then became President.

1866 Two more children came to this country in 1866. Sarah Prentiss Harper and Samuel her brother came the same year. The original report does not say, but we have to assume that they were brother and sister and came across together. Lincoln had been elected to the second term, but his assassination put Johnson in as President. It was the reconstruction era after the Civil War and things were not settled in the States either.

It is sometimes said that the Great Famine made the Harpers migrate to the United States. The dates above do not bear this out. The Great Famine in Ireland, usually known as the Famine of '47, began in 1845. The famine lasted from 1845 to 1849. The cause was a blight on the potatoe crop that lasted this length of time. During this time at least one million Irish came to America. In 1847 the potatoe crop failed a third time. A half million died in this year and a quarter million fled Ireland due to the wide migration it is easy to say: "The Harpers left Ireland during the Potatoe or Great Famine."



The six counties forming the state of "Northern Ireland" are Londonderry, Antrim, Down, Armagh, Tyrone and Fermanagh. Protestants are in a large majority in the first four counties and in Tyrone and Fermanagh Protestants and Roman Catholics are nearly equally divided.

Hillsborough is in County Down. It takes its name from Sir Arthur Hill, who built the Fort in the reign of Charles I. The Gothic Church was built in 1774 by the Earl of Hillsborough. Hillsborough Castle is now the official residence of the Governor of Northern Ireland.

Hillsborough is about 12 miles from Belfast.

Harper Genealogy in the United States from 1837 on --

Hector Harper Married Betty Gibson in Ireland. They had five boys and four girls: William, Hector, Nancy, Robert, James, Sarah, Samuel, Mary who died in infancy, and Mary who died at the age of twenty.

William, Robert, Hector and Nancy came to America in 1837.

I. William brought his family. His wife died shortly after coming. He then married Mary Doak. (William, 1801, 1871; Mary Doak Harper, 1809, 1879.)

William's daughter Elizabeth married Hopkins Willis. He died in 1869. Elizabeth then married T. W. Taylor. They had one son T. W. Taylor, born May 11, 1870.

T. W. Taylor married Lottie Harper. T. W. died 1931; Lottie was born in the year 1876 and died in 1951. They had no descendants.

William's daughter Mary married John Murphy. They had seven children: 3 boys and 4 girls. All live in Kentucky.

II. Hector married Margaret Titterington. (Hector, 1817, 1881; Margaret, 1818, 1903.)
Hector's son George married Emma Doak, December 26, 1876.
They had 2 boys and 2 girls: Hattie, 1879, 1973; Edith, 1889, 1972;
Eddie ; Walter, 1889, 1961.

Hattie married John Batdorf. He was born in 1878 and died 1957.

Hector's daughter Anna married J. Palmer. They had three children: Willie, Howard, and Blanche.

Blanche married Earl Newton. They had a son Donald.

Hector's daughter Elizabeth married E. Leavenworth. They had four children: Fred, Ethel (1884, 1941), Grace, (1888, 1977) and Eddie.

Ethel married Ralph Lawrence. They had two children: David and Genevieve. Ralph Lawrence was born in 1891 and died in 1944.

Grace married R. Hall. They had three children: Betty, Lois, and Helen Grace.

Hector's son John married Jessie Kent, October 18, 1887.
They had two children: Winifred and Lawrence.

III. Nancy married J. McBride, descendants living in Iowa.

Their son Joe has three children. Their son Willie has four children.

IV. Robert never married and he died in 1893.

V James Harper and his wife Sally Lee came to this country in 1843. James was of the same family that originally came in 1837. They had three children at the time of their arrival. Sally died in 1867 and James died in 1872.

- 1860 Daughter Elizabeth married Monroe Harriman. Monroe died in 1867.
They had a son Willis who married Ella Harper; Willis and Ella had a daughter Lillie.
Lillie married James Scott, May 23, 1909. LILLIE V SCOTT
(1885-1965)
They had a daughter Mary Alice and a son William Willis.
Mary Alice was born 1910 and William Willis 1914. AUGUSTINE JAMES
SCOTT
(1882-1967)
- 1860 Son Hector married Jane Potter. They had four children: Ella, Ellis, John and Tom. Ellis died age 9 months; John died 1872.
Ella married Willis Harriman (as above).
Tom married Ida. They had two children: Donald, and Jim.
- 1883 Son Hector married Frances Harper. The report does not say but it probably means that Hector married twice.
They had two children: Albert and Maude.
Maude married M. Denman.
They have a daughter ~~WENETA~~ living in California.
- 1860 Daughter Margaret married Samuel Perkins.
They had three children: Lettie, James, and Hattie.
Hattie married B. McCrichie and they had three children:
Eva, Gladys and Ted.
Ted married Gertrude
Lettie (born Aug. 13, 1861; died, June 4, 1942) married Charlie Dunham (born Feb. 27, 1859; died Jan. 29, 1939) on Aug. 10, 1898. They had two children: Mildred (born Nov. 21, 1901) and Edwin (born Jan. 23, 1900; died, Jan. 19, 1971).
Mildred married David Webster on Dec. 19, 1922.
They had twin girls, Marion Ruth and Mildred Mae (Feb. 23, 1925) and a boy, Donald, (Nov. 25, 1926).
David Webster died March 26, 1940.
James married Maude Bartlett, Feb. 5, 1901. Maude was born 8/1/83.
James was born Feb. 23, 1873 and died December 26, 1943.
James and Maude had four children: Blanche, 1902;
Gertrude, 1904; Calvin, 1913; Ralph, 1918.

James and Sally had Four Children Born in This Country

- 1863 Son Robert (1844, 1919) married Jane Smith (1844, 1915).
They had five children: Charlie, Archie, Cass, Jay and Alida.
Charles (1865, 1955) married Cora Harper (1870, 1940)
They had two children: Elsie who died Feb. 22, 1896 and a son Robert B. Harper born Dec. 24, 1904.
R. B. Harper married Charlotte Snear (1908) in 1933.
Cass (1872, 1952) married Winnie Smith (1873, 1935) in 1892..
They had two sons Guy and Verdine (1896, 1976).
Archie married Carrie Thorpe in 1889. No children.
Jay married Etta Landon. Jay (1878, 1948).
Alida (1881, 1960) married Wyman Irwin (1885, 1973)
They had two daughters: Dorothy (1909) and Genevieve (1916).

- 1869 Son William (1846,1877) married Mary Harriman (1849,1931).
They had three children: Cora*, Alice and James Monroe.
Alice (1874,1960) married John Phillips (1874,1964)
in 1906. No children from this marriage living.
James Monroe (1876,1911) married Marie Griffiths (1877,1944).
They had two children: Rieta and William. Rieta 1902;
William 1906.
Rieta's first husband, John Thomas died in 1946.
Rieta married H. E. Meabon in 1955.
William married Grace Herbkersman in 1935.
William and Grace have two sons: William and Jon.
*Cora married Charles, see Robert--1863.
- 1871 Son James married Margaret Doak.
They had five children: Lottie, Carrie, May, Everett, and Virgil.
Lottie Harper married T. W. Taylor. (Lottie, 1876-1951)
They had no children (T.W., 1870-1931)
Carrie (1879,1941) married Roy Wood (1876,1962).
They had no children.
May Harper (1882,1953) married Charles Watson (1881,1958).
Their children were Lucille Watson and Lawrence Watson.
Everett Harper married . Their children
Virgil Harper (1887, 1938) married Elizabeth (1889, 1969).
Their son is James Harper.
- 1870 Daughter Sarah Ann married Andrew Pike.
They had two sons: Archie and Wilson.
Wilson married Nellie Myers.
They had a son Archibald and a daughter Catherine.

	<u>Born</u>	<u>Died</u>
VI. Sarah Harper married 1835, Hillsborough, Ireland Robert Prentiss (Sarah came to this country as a widow in 1866 with five children.)	1805 1787	1885 1860
<u>their children</u> Nancy Prentiss Robert Prentiss	1837	1872 early childhood
Samuel Prentiss Betty Prentiss married 1878 R. Stanfield	1849	1873
Mary Jane Prentiss married 1873 (1) Thomas Durant	1843 1840	1905 1879
<u>their children</u> Sarah Durant Amelia Durant married 1898 David G. Moran	1874 1877 1876	1900 1958 1962
Harold Durant Morgan Gail Prentiss Morgan Gladys M. Morgan	1902 1904	1943 1904
(2) Sam Woodhouse married 1880	1844	1930
<u>their children</u> Arthur Woodhouse James Garfield Woodhouse married Katherine Collard	1882 1881 1882	1882 1908 1962
<u>their children</u> Prentice Collard Woodhouse married 1942	1907	
Lucille Sommers		
<u>their children</u> Patricia James Michael	1949 1956	

VII. Samuel came to America in 1866. He had married Mary Craig. They had four children: Willie, Jane, Robert and Elizabeth. Mary died in 1864. Samuel died in 1876

Samuel's son Willie married Mary McDonald. He died 1882.
They had a child Mabel who lived in Denver.

Samuel's son Robert became Doctor Harper. He married Delia Hardy.
Delia died in 1893.

Dr. Harper and Delia had two sons: Morris and Allie.

VIII. Mary was the 8th child and she died in infancy.

IX. Mary was the 9th child who died at the age of twenty.
--It is thought that after losing a "Mary" in infancy that the last child was again named Mary.

Harriman Genealogy

Due to the many ties between the Harpers and the Harrimans, we have placed the Harriman Genealogy on these pages with the Harper Family Tree.

The present Harper--Harriman descendants are:

Mary Alice Scott Stevenson
William Willis Scott

Robert Bayard Harper

Rieta Margaret Harper
William Thomas Harper

The descendants have the following as ancestors:

1860 Elizabeth Harper and Monroe Harriman
Their son Willis married Ella Harper.

1869 William Clay Harper and Mary Harriman
Robert Bayard Harper
Rieta Margaret Harper
William Thomas Harper

1884 Ella Harper and Willis Harriman
Mary Alice Scott Stevenson
William Willis Scott

Willis Harriman (1860-1901)
ELLA (HARRIMAN) (1861-1902)

HARRIMAN GENEALOGY

Hazen Harriman, born May 17, 1788, died 1860.
He married Stativa Lee, December 7, 1815. Stativa was born Nov. 25, 1794.
Their son Monroe Lee, born October 11, 1816, and died March 20, 1868.
Monroe married first Mary A. They had no children.
He then married Zilpha Morton.
Their daughter Mary married William Clay Harper, June 26, 1869.
Present descendants are: Rieta M. Meabon, and William T. Harper.
Robert Bayard Harper.
Monroe's third marriage was to Elizabeth Harper, in 1860.
The present descendants are: Mary Alice Scott Stevenson and
William Willis Scott.

Hazen Harriman was in the war of 1812. He became a sergeant.
He was honorably discharged February 28, 1814, 11th U. S. Infantry.

Hazen lived in New Hampshire.

Monroe came west to Ohio in about 1850. He is sometimes quoted as coming from Vermont. Vermont and New Hampshire were having a boundary dispute in the 1800s. Also, there is a Vermont County in New Hampshire.

It was found that Hazen had bought a farm in Solon, Ohio on Richmond Road. He purchased this from Hiram Staffer, in 1840. It was on the east side of Richmond across from the Horace Harriman farm.

About the Compiler William Thomas Harper

William T. Harper (1906 – 1979) was the son of James Monroe (1876 – 1911) and Marie *Grieffiths* (1877 – 1944) Harper. James M. Harper was the son of William Clay (1845 – 1877) and Mary Hortence *Harriman* (1849 – 1930) Harper. William C. Harper was the son of immigrant James William (1807 -1871) and Sarah Lee (1810 – 1871) Harper

William T. Harper

William T. Harper retired in 1970 from the Lakewood school system where he had taught high school business education for 25 years and was chairman of that department for 17 years.

Mr. Harper, 73, died Saturday in Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Avon. He had cancer.

After being graduated from Kent State University in 1933, he taught at Parma High School for four years.

He received his master's degree from Western Reserve University in 1937.

In addition to teaching at Lakewood, he was the high school faculty athletic manager for 23 years. He was treasurer of the schools' credit union for 28 years.

In 1964, Mr. Harper was awarded the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation Award for his teaching.

He belonged to Faith Lutheran Church, 16511 Hilliard Rd., Lakewood, where services will be at 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Mr. Harper taught Sunday school classes and was superintendent at the church for many years.

When Mr. Harper attended Kent, he started working at Meyer Dairy Products Co. in Cleveland to pay his way through school. He continued working when his teaching career began, working summers at whatever jobs were open, and was with the dairy company for 40 years.

Survivors include his wife, Grace F.; sons, William T. Jr. and Jon J.; five grandchildren and a sister.

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